

9/17/99

Re: Docket Numbers 98N-1230, 96P-0418; ~~97P-0197~~ SEP 21 10:27

Dear Dockets Management Representative:

In response to your request for public comment on reducing egg-borne diseases, let me say that the FDA should recognize the simple fact that forced molting is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens & their consumer eggs. It's hard to imagine a more gruesome practice than forced molting on egg-laying hens. A civilized country should have no place for the abuse of withholding food, water and sunlight for days from any animal. And the cruelty and ugly DISEASE are linked (as they usually are). The disease is promoted because the hens' immune systems are destroyed.

If Great Britain's government can see how inhumane and UNSAFE this practice is (as they banned it more than 10 years ago!), surely ours can.

PLEASE act now on the above dockets to end this barbaric, torturous practice. You have the power to do more than put warning labels on egg cartons. This practice causes human injury to health, and needs to be banned for this reason--among others. And the farm industry can 'afford' it - many do NOT buy these eggs because of such an unhealthy practice.

Thank you. Please respond.

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96P-0418

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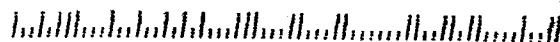
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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C663

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C664
96P-0418/C663